

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the Abstract of the Specification as indicated below, wherein markup is employed to show changes made relative to the immediate prior version:

~~It is an object of this invention to provide- The invention provides~~
~~an image reading apparatus for performing high-precision image read by~~
~~canceling out noise based on digital signal processing and superimposed on an~~
~~effective portion of an analog signal. In order to achieve this object, the The~~
~~image reading apparatus superimposes digital-based data and data-clock-based~~
~~fixed noise on an sensor output signal in reference data acquiring operation as~~
~~well to output data with the fixed data being canceled out in image read-operation.~~
~~The number of image read data may greatly differ from the number of data in~~
~~reference data acquiring operation depending on the resolution, and the dummy~~
~~clock output timing in reference data acquiring operation may differ from the data~~
~~output timing in image read operation. To avoid such a situation, appropriate~~
~~timings are selected/set for each resolution, with the clock output timing in~~
~~reference data acquiring operation matching the data/clock output timing in image~~
~~read operation, by selecting the number of data output terminals.~~